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|  | Mr Sadyr Japarov  President of the Kyrgyz Republic Bishkek  By e-mail: [pisma@mail.gov.kg](mailto:pisma@mail.gov.kg) and  [oip@adm.gov.kg](mailto:oip@adm.gov.kg)  Cc: Embassy of the Kyrgyz Republic in (……) (e-mail) |
|  |  |

Date

# Draft Law on Trade Unions

Dear President Japarov,

On behalf of the **(………..)**, I write to you concerning the draft law on trade unions.

The international trade union movement had communicated its condemnation of the draft bill, both to the Parliament and the government of Kyrgyzstan. The draft is not in compliance with ILO norms, including the ILO Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize Convention No. 87 and the Right to Organize and Collective Bargaining Convention No. 98, both ratified by Kyrgyzstan in 1992. Nevertheless, the bill was voted on by the Parliament on 31 March in the final hearing and is due to be submitted to you for signature.

We firmly believe that this draft law must be rejected by you.

Mr President, trade unions, under virtue of ILO Convention 87, organise their activities and make their own decisions in line with their internal rules and procedures, free from any interference from state bodies or any other parties. If this draft law were adopted, trade unions would be deprived of the right to independently determine their organisational structure, forms and types of associations and the right to establish their own governing bodies and the terms of their election. Consequently, respect for workers’ rights would deteriorate sharply, and the level of social and economic protection would also decrease. Please find enclosed again the detailed analysis by the ITUC that was communicated to the government and the Parliament of Kyrgyzstan[[1]](#footnote-1).

We call on you to exercise your constitutional right to veto this draft bill and act as guarantor of the constitution of the country to make sure that the legislation of Kyrgyzstan is in full compliance with international obligations, in particularly with ILO Conventions 87 and 98.

The adoption of this draft trade union bill, which violates international labour standards and the constitution of Kyrgyzstan, will undermine the reputation of the country as a reliable international and trade partner.

We have already submitted our concerns to the International Labour Organization, and we will not hesitate to undertake further steps – including with the United Nations, the European Union and its member states, and other strategic partners of Kyrgyzstan – to make sure that the fundamental rights and freedoms of workers are respected in law and in practice in Kyrgyzstan.

Yours sincerely,

1. <https://perc.ituc-csi.org/IMG/pdf/ituc_to_president_speaker_mamytov_re_draft_law_on_trade_unions_16-11-2020.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)